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IN THE UNITED STATES
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Flickinger, et al.

Application No: 10/706,748

Filing Date: November 12, 2003

Attorney Docket No: 17511C

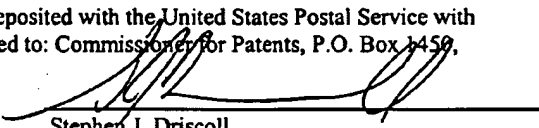
Title: PLUGGABLE MODULE AND
RECEPTACLE

Art Group: 2839

Examiner: Dinh, Phuong K.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on September 7, 2004.


Stephen J. Driscoll

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
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10/07/2004 TDAWKINS 00000003 195425 RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED JUNE 4, 2004
Sale Ref: 00000003 DA#: 195425 10706748
Q1 FC:1202 108.00 DA

Dear Sir:

This reply is being filed timely in response to the Office Action of June 4, 2004 in connection with the above-identified patent application. (September 4, 2004 was a Saturday and September 6, 2004 was a holiday).

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 11 of this paper.

Here, Smith discloses a device for playing video games. It contains a receptacle to receive a cartridge containing additional PSUs as well as selection buttons and joy sticks to receive operator control signals. It is inconceivable to the Applicants why one would be motivated to modify the cartridge 28 to include a connector interface "to supply signal to the system" as suggested by the Examiner. First, there is no need for such a modification since the selection button and joy sticks already provide means for inputting control signals. Such a modification would therefore involve discarding the existing control inputs in favor of those implemented via the cartridge as suggested by the Examiner. Not only is this wasteful, but the modification also needlessly complicates the structure and function of the cartridge. The result is the intended function and operation of the Smith device is destroyed for a more complex, less desirable alternative. Clearly there can be no motivation for such a modification. Accordingly, the rejection should be withdrawn and the claims allowed.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants graciously acknowledge the Examiners finding of allowable subject matter in Claim 32. At this time, however, Applicants wish to forego amending this claim to make it independent pending the Examiner's reconsideration of the issues raised above.

Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,



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